

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
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R 172247Z JUL 78  
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INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USLO PEKING  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PEPR, SOPN, CH, UR, XB  
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS ATTACKS ON CHINA STRESS SOUTHEAST  
ASIA AND CHINESE THREAT TO NEIGHBORS

SUMMARY: SOVIET WEEKEND PRESS CARRIES SEVERAL STRONGLY  
ANTI-CHINESE ARTICLES WHICH PROVIDE IN CONCENTRATED  
FORM THE SUBSTANCE OF MOSCOW'S PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN  
AGAINST PEKING. END SUMMARY.

1. PERHAPS THE MOST NOTABLE ITEM IN THE WEEKEND  
BARRAGE OF ANTI-CHINESE MATERIAL IS A LONG TASS  
SUMMARY OF AN INTERVIEW, PUBLISHED IN UNEN, BY  
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MONGOLIA'S TSEDENBAL, WHO ATTACKS CHINA ON A BROAD  
RANGE OF ISSUES, INCLUDING FOR ITS ALLEGED DESIRE TO  
ACQUIRE THE NEUTRON WEAPON. TSEDENBAL, INTER ALIA,  
CLAIMS THAT CHINA POSES A "GENUINE THREAT" TO MONGOLIAN  
INDEPENDENCE AND ASSERTS THAT HIS COUNTRY HAS BEEN  
FORCED THEREFORE TO STRENGTHEN ITS MILITARY DEFENSES.

2. TSEDENBAL STRESSES PEKING'S THREAT TO VIETNAM AS PART OF HIS EMPHASIS ON THE CHINESE DANGER THROUGHOUT ASIA. THIS THEME IS HEAVILY PLAYED

ELSEWHERE DURING THE WEEKEND, MOST NOTABLY IN RED STAR OF JULY 16 WHICH SHOWS PICTURES OF CHINESE SHELLS CAPTURED BY THE SRV ARMY AND ASSERTS (BASED ON UNNAMED FOREIGN SOURCES) THAT KAMPUCHEAN UNITS ARE COMMANDED BY CHINESE OFFICERS, WHO OFTEN FIRE ON SRV FORCES. YURI ZHUKOV IN PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL WEEK OF JULY 16 ALSO DISCUSSES CHINESE PRESSURE ON "HEROIC VIETNAM" AS PART OF HIS CONTRIBUTION TO MOSCOW'S ANTI-CHINESE RHETORIC. FINALLY, IZVESTIYA OBSERVER MATVEYEV HAS A LONG ARTICLE IN IZVESTIYA OF JULY 14 WHICH MOVES FROM THE THEME OF U.S.-CHINESE COOPERATION TO SUBJUGATE THE SRV TO EMPHASIS ON THE CHINESE THREAT TO SOUTHEAST ASIA.

3. OTHER PRESS ATTENTION TO CHINA INCLUDES:

-- AN OUTRAGED ARTICLE BY TASS OBSERVER YAKOVLEV IN RED STAR OF JULY 16 DEALING WITH CHINESE DENIGRATION OF THE SOVIET ROLE DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR;

-- AN ARTICLE IN THE SAME EDITION OF RED STAR ON THE VISIT TO CHINA OF EUGENE ROSTOW WHICH SUGGESTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT ROSTOW IS ACTING AS A MIDDLEMAN BETWEEN CHINA AND ISRAEL; AND

-- A COMMENTARY IN PRAVDA OF JULY 17 BY YURI GLUKHOV ON CHINESE EFFORTS TO MEDDLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST BY MEANS OF A RAPPROCHEMENT WITH "THE MOST REACTIONARY FORCES OF THE ARAB WORLD."

4. COMMENT: THE SUBSTANCE OF THESE ARTICLES IS CONSISTENT WITH EARLIER COMMENTARY BUT THE STYLE, IF POSSIBLE, APPEARS EVEN MORE OUTRAGED THAN USUAL. THE INTENSITY OF THE ATTACKS MAY BE EXPLAINED BY THE FACT THAT THE UNDERLYING THEME, THAT OF A CHINESE THREAT THROUGHOUT ASIA, APPEARS TO HAVE TAKEN ON MORE REALISTIC FORM FOR THE SOVIETS IN RECENT WEEKS. MATLOCK

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## Message Attributes

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